

Ban on Disposal of Asphalt, Bricks and Concrete (ABC)

SPUN Committee 2/25/11

Background

- This legislation is the result of council direction and broader policy efforts:
- 2007 Zero Waste Resolution directed SPU to investigate a range of options for increasing the recycling of construction and demolition materials.
- SPU consulted with construction waste generators, haulers, and processors on potential policy options for increased diversion.
- In September 2010 SPU briefed the Council on specific recommendations to increase diversion, including proposed ban the disposal of asphalt, bricks and concrete, new recycling requirements, and facility certification.
- In the fourth quarter of 2010, SPU completed more stakeholder involvement on the policy recommendations. Feedback is discussed below.

2011 Legislation to SPUN Committee

SPU expects to visit committee with three pieces of legislations related to construction waste in 2011:

- Today, February 25, committee reviews the proposed ban on disposal of asphalt, bricks and concrete discussed below.
- On April 12, committee will review a potential penalty for the illegal hauling of City's waste.
- This summer, committee will review the proposed additional recycling requirements for construction waste and the certification of processing facilities. SPU is improving these initiatives based on stakeholder input.

ABC Legislation Summary

The legislation for consideration on February 25 provides for the following:

- Prohibits disposal of these asphalt paving, bricks and concrete. Recyclers already divert over 90% of these materials that are generated.
- Current City code requires the recycling of concrete and asphalt generated by City maintenance or public works projects. We are now extending this requirement to private construction job sites and disposal facilities including the City transfer stations.
- Legislation will exempt painted or contaminated materials as well as those generated in very small quantities
- The disposal ban would be effective January 1, 2012 and provide one year of education and outreach prior to ban enforcement in 2013.

Construction Industry Stakeholder Input

Stakeholders in the construction waste industry provided the following input:

- The legislation might not be needed, as most of these materials are already being recycled. **SPU response:** An estimated 15,000 tons per year are still disposed and could be recovered.
- SPU should exempt painted and contaminated materials that can be difficult to recycle. **SPU response:** Agreed.